

displaying, proximate to the display of the incomplete computer programming statement, a list of one or more textual programmatic entities;

A 5
an input device that receives user input selecting one of the textual programmatic entities displayed by the display device; and

a processor for modifying the incomplete computer programming statement by adding to the incomplete computer programming statement the selected textual programmatic entity.

REMARKS

The Office action dated December 23, 1998, and the references cited therein have been carefully considered. Applicants appreciate the notification that dependent claim 18 contained allowable subject matter.

In this amendment, claim 4 has been canceled, new claims 21-49 have been added; and claims 1-3 and 5-20 have been amended to more distinctly point-out the present invention. The specification has been amended without adding new matter to correct some typographical errors and inconsistent use of figure reference labels in the specification.

Applicants request Examiner's approval of:

1. the redline denoted change to FIG. 3 to replace one of the two occurrences of label "223" with "233" to alleviate confusion as label 223 is currently used to indicate two different elements (the specification being amended herein to reflect this correction); and
2. the redline denoted change to FIG. 8 to correct a typographical error and replace label "511" with "811" as referenced in the specification on page 18, line 18.

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No new matter has been added by this Amendment A And Submission Of Proposed Drawing Amendments For Approval By Examiner.

The following remarks are numbered to reference the same numbered paragraphs of the Office action to which they are directed.

Paragraph 1. The title has been amended here to be "Method and Apparatus for Presenting and Selecting Options to Modify a Programming Language Statement."

Paragraph 3. Claims 1-17 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frid-Nelson (U.S. Patent 5,740,444).

Independent claims 1, 12, and 17 have been amended to include claim elements directed towards modifying a current programming language statement based at least in part on a selection by the computer user from a generated set of programming language statement information. For example, independent claim 1 now recites "receiving a representation of a selection by the computer programmer from the generated set of programming language statement information; and modifying the present programming language statement based at least in part on the selected programming language statement information." As the prior art of record neither teaches nor suggests all the claim elements/limitations of the amended independent claims, independent claims 1, 12, and 17, and their dependent claims 2-3, 5-11, 13-16, and 18-32 are believed to be allowable for at least these reasons.

Frid-Nielsen neither teaches nor suggests all the recited elements/limitations of the claims; and therefore, a

prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. The burden is on the Office Action to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, which has not been done as the MPEP requires, *inter alia*, that:

"the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure."

MPEP § 706.02(j) (*citing In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488 (Fed. Cir. 1991)) (emphasis added).

The present invention is directed towards assisting a computer programmer in real-time to accurately modify a present programming statement by generating a set of programming language statement information relevant to the present programming language statement and receiving a selection which is used to modify the current programming language statement. See claim 1; see also independent claims 12 and 17, and new independent claims 33, 41 and 49. In addition, the receipt of the selection and/or modification may be in response to the activation of a commit key. See claims 22-29 and 31.

In contrast, Frid-Nielsen is directed towards an integrated development environment having an editor and debugging browser for looking up symbol information (including symbol information relevant to the location in the source listing in which the user is currently working). See Abstract. The editor of Frid-Nielsen does provide the standard search and cut/paste common features commonly provided by editors. However, Frid-Nielsen requires a user

to manually edit the programming language statement. Moreover, Frid-Nielsen neither teaches nor suggests providing information for modifying a programming language statement, nor modifying the present programming statement in response to a selection by the programming user or activation of a commit key as recited in pending claims.

As the prior art of record neither teaches nor suggests all the recited claim elements, claims 1-3 and 5-49 are believed to be allowable.

Paragraph 4. Applicants appreciate the notification that the subject matter of claim 18 is allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

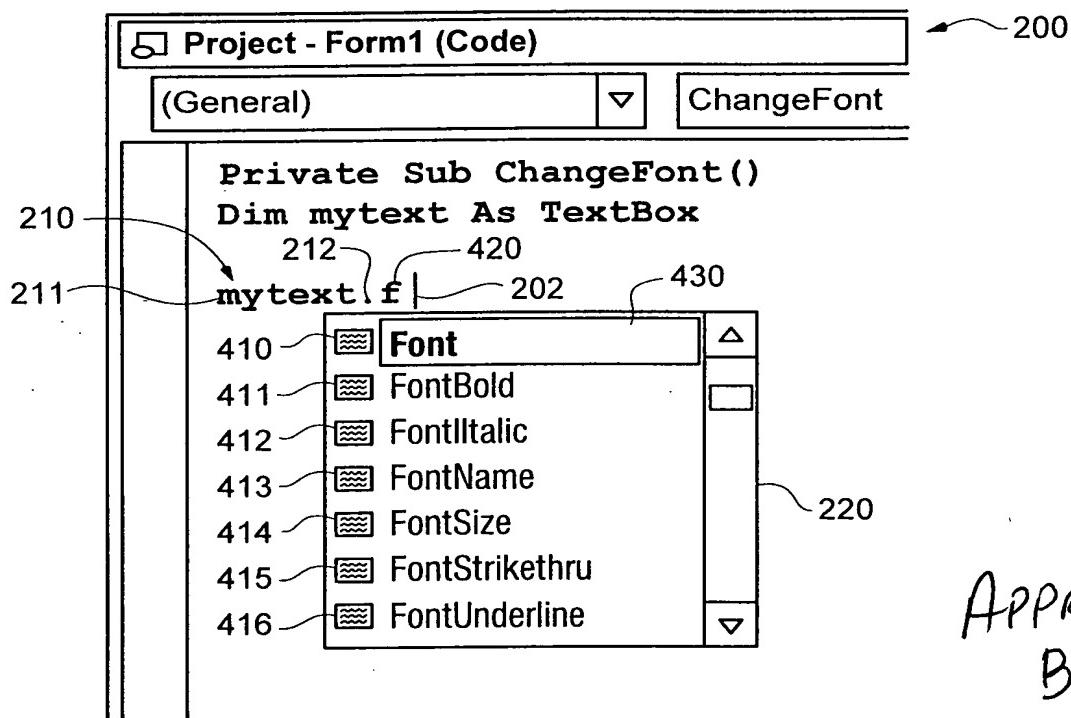
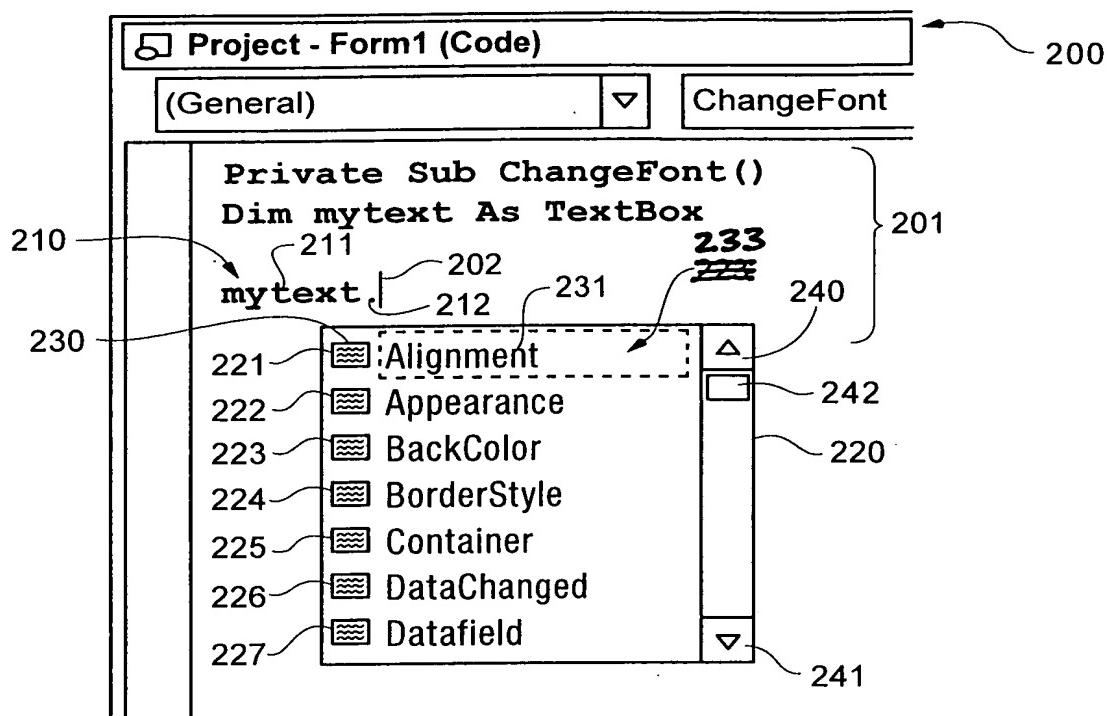
If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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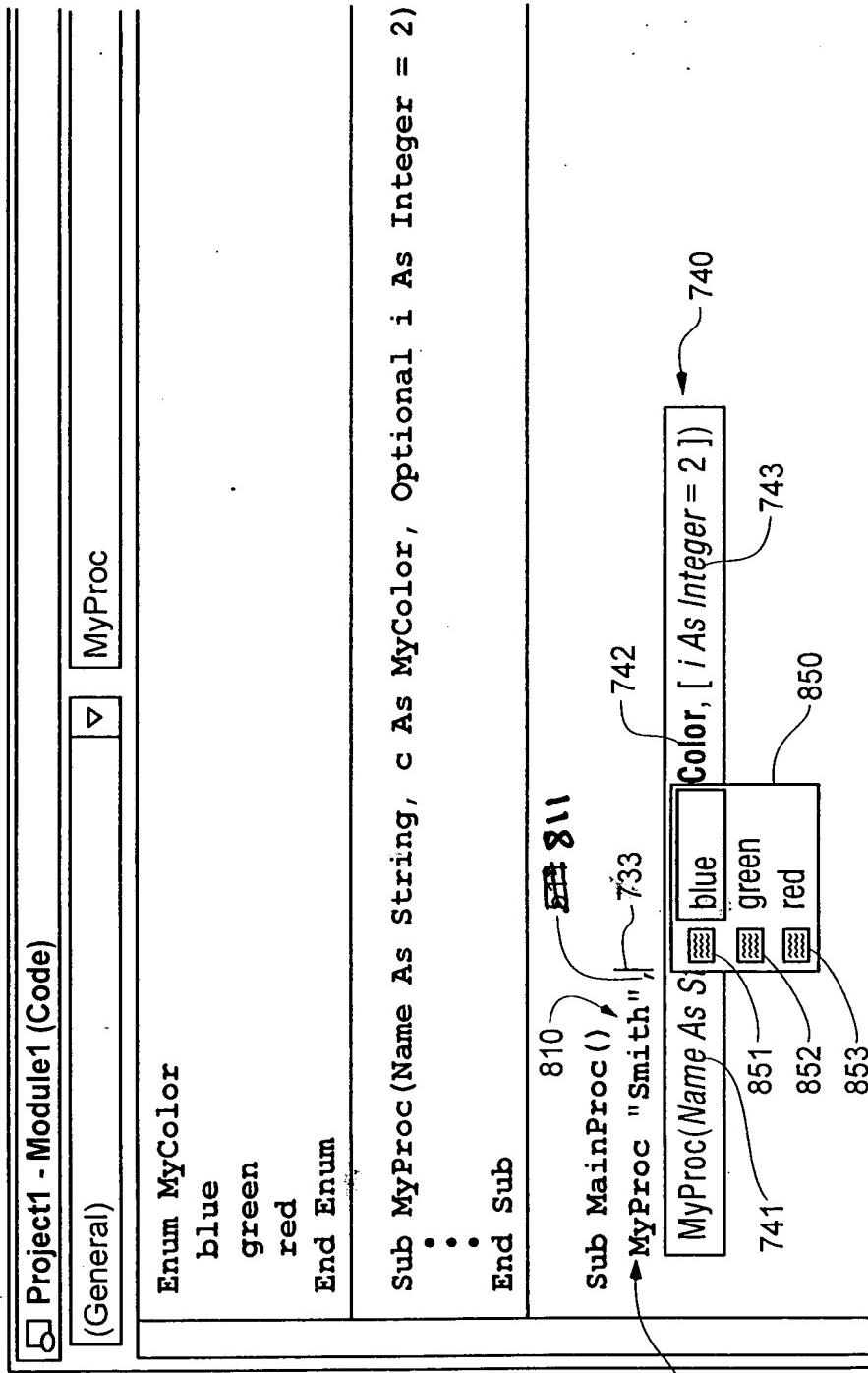


FIG. 8

APPROVED

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